

Appl. No. 10/792,008
Response to Office Action mailed June 20, 2007

Atty Dkt. No. 113642-050
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LISTING OF CLAIMS

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This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the patent application.

Claim 1 (previously presented): A spring clamp, comprising a clamping mouth with two clamping jaws spring-loaded toward one another by a spring and are formed by first and second arms which are connected to one another in an articulated manner at one end, and other ends of which form actuating sections which can be moved toward one another in order to open the clamping mouth; when the two clamping jaws are abutted together, the two clamping jaws, together with an articulation pin of the first and second arms, define a reference plane; wherein an angle bisector between the two actuating sections is inclined at 90° to the reference plane; wherein the one arm of the first and second arms is substantially Y-shaped and the other arm of the first and second arms is substantially L-shaped.

Claim 2 (cancelled).

Claim 3 (original): The spring clamp according to claim 1, further comprising a hook pivotally mounted to one of the actuating sections.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The spring clamp according to claim 1, further comprising a hook pivotally mounted to one of the actuating sections.

Claim 5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (previously presented): The spring clamp according to claim 3, wherein the hook, when pivoted in, is located in a substantially parallel position in relation to the actuating section.

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Claim 7 (previously presented): The spring clamp according to claim 3, wherein the two actuating sections have grip zones oriented away from one another and having a soft grip layer, and inner sides oriented toward one another; and wherein the hook, when pivoted in, being positioned in a pivot-in space of at least one of the inner sides.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The spring clamp according to claim 3, wherein the hook has a closure tongue.

Claim 9 (original): The spring clamp according to claim 8, wherein the closure tongue is urged by spring force into a closed position and is curved in a direction of an inside of the hook.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The spring clamp according to claim 3, further comprising a journal mounting the hook to one of the actuating sections, the journal having stop against which a mating stop of the other actuating section contacts when the spring clamp is in an open position.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The spring clamp according to claim 3, further comprising a retaining bracket located on an inner side of one actuating section, the retaining bracket providing rotary articulation of the hook.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The spring clamp according to claim 11, wherein the retaining bracket has a snap-action opening, and the hook has a neck latched to the retaining bracket through the snap-action opening.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A clamp, comprising:
first and second clamping jaws biased toward each other;
a first actuating section connected to the first clamping jaw;
a second actuating section connected to the second clamping jaw;
the first and second clamping jaws extending in a first reference direction during use of the first and second clamping jaws, and the first and second actuating sections extending in a

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second reference direction during use of the first and second clamping jaws which is generally perpendicular to the first reference direction; and

a hook pivotally mounted to one of the first and second actuating sections;

wherein the hook has a pivoted-in position between inner sides of the actuating sections.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The clamp according to claim 13, further comprising a first arm connected to the first clamping jaw and a second arm connected to the second clamping jaw, the first and second arms pivotally connected together at an arm pivot axis, wherein the hook has a pivot axis which is not parallel to the arm pivot axis.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A clamp, comprising:

first and second clamping jaws biased toward each other;

a first actuating section connected to the first clamping jaw;

a second actuating section connected to the second clamping jaw; and

a hook pivotally mounted to ~~one of the first and second actuating sections~~ section;

wherein the hook has a pivoted-in position between inner sides of the actuating sections and a use position pivoted away from the inner sides of the actuating sections, and in the use position the hook has a first leg extending away from the second actuating section and a second leg extending from the first leg back toward the second actuating section forming a U-shape.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A spring clamp, comprising a clamping mouth with two clamping jaws spring-loaded toward one another by a spring and are formed by first and second arms which are connected to one another in an articulated manner at one end, and other ends of which form actuating sections which can be moved toward one another in order to open the clamping mouth; when the two clamping jaws are abutted together, the two clamping jaws, together with an articulation pin of the first and second arms, define a reference plane; wherein an angle bisector between the two actuating sections is inclined at substantially 90° to the reference plane;

a hook pivotally mounted to one of the actuating sections; and

a retaining bracket located on an inner side of one actuating section, the retaining bracket providing rotary articulation of the hook.